

CENSORSHIP OF TELEGRAPHIC CORRESPONDENCE

Exchange of notes at México October 20 and 27, 1943
*Terminated July 15, 1945*¹

Department of State files

The Minister of Foreign Affairs to the American Ambassador

[TRANSLATION]

58073

MEXICO, D.F., *October 20, 1943*

MR. AMBASSADOR:

With reference to the conversations I have had with Your Excellency in the matter, I take the liberty of informing you that the Government of Mexico is disposed to enter into an agreement with the Government of the United States of America for the purpose of making uniform the existing procedures or those that may be adopted in the future for the censorship of telegraphic correspondence which has been established as a result of the war in which our two countries are engaged with the Axis nations. The bases of this Agreement would be the following:

ARTICLE 1. For the purpose of coordinating and making uniform the censorship work on telephonic communications and on telegraphic correspondence passing over the telegraph and cable lines, as well as through the radiotelegraph stations controlled by the Governments of Mexico and the United States of America, the High Contracting Parties agree to establish direct telegraphic communication between the cities of Mexico, Federal District, and Washington, District of Columbia.

ARTICLE 2. The direct telegraphic communication referred to in the above article will be used to link the Office of Censorship which the Mexican Government has established in the city of Mexico, Federal District, with the offices which the Government of the United States of America has in operation in Washington, District of Columbia.

ARTICLE 3. The expenses originating in Mexican territory for the maintenance of the direct telegraphic communication to which this Agreement refers will be paid entirely by the Mexican Government.

¹ Pursuant to notice of termination given by the United States June 15, 1945.

ARTICLE 4. The Government of the United States of America, on its part, will pay all the expenses which originate in United States territory, under the conditions mentioned in the preceding article.

ARTICLE 5. The High Contracting Parties agree that the connecting point for the direct telegraphic communication mentioned in this Agreement will be established in the American city of Laredo, Texas.

ARTICLE 6. The personnel, equipment, and facilities necessary for the maintenance of the direct telegraphic communication referred to, will be furnished for the exclusive account of each of the High Contracting Parties in Mexico, D.F. and Washington, D.C.

ARTICLE 7. The hours of service and the working conditions will be determined by agreement between the High Contracting Parties, according to the needs of the censorship service.

ARTICLE 8. This Agreement will be considered in force from the date on which the service is inaugurated between Mexico, D.F., and Washington, D.C., and will remain in force for an indefinite period; but it may cease to have effect when this is considered desirable by the High Contracting Parties, it being sufficient for the purpose that one of the High Contracting Parties notify the other in writing to that effect thirty days in advance.

It is understood that this Agreement will be considered as binding upon the receipt of the note in which Your Excellency will be kind enough to communicate to me that the conditions stated in the present note are agreeable to your Government.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

E. PADILLA

His Excellency

GEORGE S. MESSERSMITH,

Ambassador Extraordinary and

*Plenipotentiary of the United States of America,
City.*

The American Ambassador to the Minister of Foreign Affairs

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Mexico, October 27, 1943

No. 1954

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's courteous note number 58073 of October 20, 1943, reading, in translation, as follows:

[For text of Mexican note, see above.]

In expressing my appreciation of Your Excellency's note, I have the honor, pursuant to instructions from my Government, to inform Your Excellency that the agreement in question has the approval of my Government.

Please accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

GEORGE S. MESSERSMITH

His Excellency

Señor Licenciado EZEQUIEL PADILLA,
Minister for Foreign Affairs,
Mexico.